

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A non-reusable identification apparatus comprising:
 - 5 an attachment, for fastening the identification apparatus to a user;
 - an identification device, for providing identification information; and
 - a disabling device, for permanently disabling the identification device after the apparatus is first removed from the user.
- 10 2. An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the attachment further comprises:
 - a band of material for attaching the identification apparatus to a body part portion of a user.
3. An apparatus as in claim 2 wherein the attachment further comprises:
 - 15 a band of material having a strip of adhesive on at least one end thereof, the adhesive being used to bond to an opposite end of the band when fastened to the body part of the user.
4. An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the attachment further comprises:
 - 20 a band of material having hole formed in one end thereof and a barbed peg on another end thereof, the barbed peg arranged to pass through the hole and lock into a mating hole when attached to the body part of the user.
5. An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the identification device further comprises:
 - 25 a strip of material carrying the identification information in printed form.
6. An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the identification device further comprises:
 - a transponder circuit arranged to receive a wireless signal, and in response thereto, to emit a wireless signal representative of the identification information.

7. An apparatus as in claim 3 wherein

at least a portion of the identification device is located adjacent the adhesive material when the identification device is attached to the user, such that when the band
5 is removed from the user by separating the adhesive bond, the identification device is in turn at least partially destroyed.

8. An apparatus as in claim 6 wherein the disabling device further comprises:

a device for causing disablement of the transponder circuit upon removal of the
10 apparatus from the user.

9. An apparatus as in claim 8 wherein the disabling device further comprises:

a device for causing a break in electrical continuity of the components of the transponder circuit.
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10. An apparatus as in claim 9 wherein the identification device further comprises:

an electrically conductive loop used as an antenna.

11. An apparatus as in claim 10 wherein the disabling device serves to disconnect the
20 transponder circuit from the antenna upon first removal of the apparatus from the user.

12. An apparatus as in claim 10 wherein the disabling device serves to destroy at least a portion of the antenna.

25 13. An apparatus as in claim 10 wherein the attachment further comprises a band of material which is fastened around a body part of a user, and an electrically conductive wire loop is disposed in the band of material.

14. An apparatus as in claim 13 wherein the disabling device causes a break in the wire
30 loop when the band of material is broken.

15. An apparatus as in claim 14 wherein the band of material has one or more holes formed along a length thereof and the electrically conductive wire loop encircles the holes.

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16. An apparatus as in claim 6 wherein

the attachment further comprises a band having a strip of adhesive material on at least one end thereof, the adhesive material being used to bond to an opposite end of the band when fastened around a portion of a body part of the user; and

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wherein at least a portion of the transponder circuit is located adjacent the adhesive material, such that when the band is removed from the user by separating the adhesive bond, the transponder circuit is at least in part destroyed.

17. A method for operating a non-reusable identification apparatus comprising:

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attaching the identification apparatus to a user;

providing identification information as part of the identification apparatus at least when initially attached to the user; and

preventing the apparatus from providing the identification information one the apparatus is first removed from the user.

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18. A method as in claim 17 wherein the attaching step further comprises:

attaching a band of material to a body part portion of a user.

19. A method as in claim 18 wherein the attaching step further comprises:

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attaching the band of material using a strip of adhesive formed on at least one end thereof, such that the adhesive bonds to an opposite end of the band when fastened to the body part of the user.

20. A method as in claim 17 wherein the attaching step further comprises:

attaching the band of material using hole formed in one end thereof and a barbed peg on another end thereof, the barbed peg passing through the hole and lock into a mating hole.

- 5 21. A method as in claim 17 wherein the step of providing identification information further comprises:

providing a strip of material carrying the identification information in printed form on the apparatus.

- 10 22. A method as in claim 17 wherein the step of providing identification information further comprises:

operating a transponder circuit to receive a wireless signal, and in response thereto, to emit a wireless signal representative of the identification information.

- 15 23. A method as in claim 18 wherein

at least a portion of the identification device is located adjacent the adhesive material when the identification device is attached to the user, such that when the band is removed from the user by separating the adhesive bond, the identification device is in turn at least partially destroyed.

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24. A method as in claim 17 wherein the step of disabling comprises:

disabling of the transponder circuit upon removal of the apparatus from the user.

- 25 25. A method as in claim 24 wherein the step of disabling further comprises:

causing a break in electrical continuity of the components of the transponder circuit.

26. A method as in claim 22 wherein the step of identifying further comprises:

operating an electrically conductive wire loop as an antenna.

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27. A method as in claim 26 wherein the disabling step disconnects the transponder circuit from the antenna upon first removal of the apparatus from the user.

28. A method as in claim 26 wherein the disabling step destroys at least a portion of the
5 antenna.

29. A method as in claim 26 wherein the attachment step further comprises fastening a band of material around a body part of a user, wherein the band of material includes an electrically conductive wire loop.
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30. A method as in claim 29 wherein the disabling step breaks the wire loop when the band of material is broken.

31. A method as in claim 29 wherein the band of material has one or more holes
15 formed along a length thereof and the electrically conductive wire loop encircles the holes.

32. A method as in claim 22 wherein
the attachment step further comprises fastening a band having a strip of adhesive
20 material on at least one end thereof to a body part of the user, the adhesive material being used to bond to an opposite end of the band; and

wherein the disabling step is further provided by locating at least a portion of the transponder circuit adjacent the adhesive material, such that when the band is removed from the user by separating the adhesive bond, the transponder circuit is at least in part
25 destroyed.